(b) whether similarly some Russian delegations have visited India ;

(c) if so, what is the number of such delegations which visited each other from the 1st January, 1986 to 31st July, 1988;

(d) what was the composition of the persons in these delegations and what was the purpose thereof ;

(e) what has been the outcome of the visits by these delegations and the benefit accrued to India by them ; and

(f) what is the number of such delegations likely to be sent abroad during the year 1989 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as it is available.

Construction of Pulichintala Dam

4405. Dr. YELAMANDHILI SIVAJI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the proposal of Government of Andhra Pradesh to Construct "Pulichintala Dam" on River Krishna has been cleared ;

(b) if so, what are the details of the proposal ; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The proposals has been returned for further investigations .

Judges in High Courts

4406. SHRI B.L. PANWAR : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE to be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Judges in High Courts and Supreme Court belongihg to the backward classes along with the date of their appointments in each cases ;

(b) whether Government proposes to appoint more iudges belonging to the backward classes in High Court and supreme Court in pursuance of Article 46 of the Constitutions ; and

(c) whether any direction has been issued to the State Governments to sponsor names of such suitable persons belonging to backward classes for consideration for appointment as Judges of High Courts and Supreme Court by the Union Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI HANS RAJ BHARDWAJ): (a) The requisite informationis being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House after it has been received.

(b) and (c) Appointments of Judges in High Courts and Supreme Court are made in terms of the provisions of Article 217(1) and article 124 (2) of the Constitution respectively. The Government have again addressed the Chief Ministers of States and Chief Justices of High Courts in December 1987, requesting them to locate persons from the Bar belonging to Backward Classes who are suitable for appointment to the High Court, and stressing that the volume of legal practice being not high enough should not be a material consideration acting as deterrent to the names of such persons being recommended.